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The Banker The County Agent The Farmer

**Working Together
for an
Improved Farm Business**

Extension Folder No. 24

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



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PLAN OF CO-OPERATION

1. Attempt to interest every agricultural county in having an appointed key banker representing the State Bankers' Association and also representing the Agricultural Improvement program for the county, this key banker to be appointed by the agricultural committee of the State Bankers' Association.

2. This key banker, with the county agent, might consider the appointment of other bankers and leading farmers in the county to serve as a co-operating group for the promotion of agricultural interests and developments for the year.

3. This committee should become thoroughly familiar with the extension program in the county, with the status of the boys' and girls' club work, with the principal needs and problems of the various communities, and work with the agent as a banker-farmer committee in promoting the projects that make up the extension program of work in the county.

4. Select one project from the 1929 program in the county on which special emphasis will be placed as opportunity permits. This means arranging for definite publicity on this project, for the attendance of bankers of the county at local meetings, the distribution of account books, and conferences of the local banker with his farmer constituents relative to backing up the county program of work.

5. Arrange for presentation of the extension program and results before county and district bankers' meetings.

1929 PROJECTS FOR FARMER-BANKER- EXTENSION CO-OPERATION

Select One

I. A Five-Year Program for Dairy Herd Improvement

*"Not more cows, but better cows with a lower
cost per unit of production."*

Minnesota has an estimated number of 1,410,000 milk cows, producing an average of 190 lb. butterfat annually; 15 per cent of these cows average less than 125 lb.

By replacing these cows with better ones and allowing for a 5 per cent annual increase in butterfat for the next five years, the average production would be increased from 190 lb. to 245 lb., or 11 lb. per cow per year.

Emphasis on high quality dairy products has helped increase the per capita consumption in the United States from 830 lb. in 1916, to 1040 lb. in 1927. During this period the number of cows per capita declined. Consumption has not yet reached its limit and there is no immediate danger of overproduction.

Bankers can co-operate in this project by:

1. Assisting in the purebred sire campaign by financing the purchase of good sires.
2. Backing the development of cow testing associations.
3. Talking the project with bank patrons and distributing literature emphasizing feeding, breeding and culling.
4. Backing the 4-H Calf Club work by sponsoring the purchase of good heifers.

II. McLean System of Swine Management

Rules prescribed by U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry:

1. Clean the hog house and scrub it with boiling lye solution.

2. Wash the sows' sides and udders with soapy water before farrowing.
3. Haul the pigs to clean pasture and keep them there.

III. Fertilizer Plot Crop Demonstrations

1. Urge farmers to try fertilizer on a small scale before investing heavily.
2. Assist agent in arranging demonstrations. Visit farms during growing and harvesting periods.

IV. Sow Thistle Control

Recommendations of the Sow Thistle Control Conference held at Crookston, January, 1928:

1. Increase the use of alfalfa and sweet clover in the crop rotation.
2. Use a cultivated crop such as corn or potatoes.
3. Expand gradually the numbers of livestock kept to utilize the additional feed.

V. Boys' and Girls' Clubs

1. Encourage club members by financing livestock purchases and by visiting them throughout the year.
2. Urge parents to interest boys and girls in club work.

VI. Farm Records and Accounts

1. Assist in distributing farm record books and inventory blanks.
2. Urge farmers to keep accounts, beginning with an inventory and later adopting a record of receipts and expenses.

**For Further Information, see Your
County Agent**

The extension service will furnish bankers with copies of the county program of work, circulars and bulletins on the projects in which they are especially interested, and will co-operate heartily to bring the rural bankers, the leading farmers and the county extension service closer together.